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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Reissue Application No. 10/616,797
Filed: July 10, 2003
Original Patent No 6,258,988
Issue Date: July 10, 2002
Original Application No. 08/172,579
Filed: December 23, 1993
Inventor: Nagel, Griffin, Kinney, Sparks

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: DECISION GRANTING STATUS
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)
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This is a decision on the petition filed September 23, 2004, under 37 CFR 1.47(a) to accord this reissue application status in the absence of the signature of joint inventor Kinney.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) to accord this reissue application status is **granted**.

The application and papers have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.47(a). This application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status and the Office of Initial Patent Examination is authorized to

- (1) accept this application under 37 CFR 1.47(a);
- (2) process the application with the inventors being Nagel, Griffin, Kinney, and Sparks, using the reissue oath/declaration filed September 22, 2004; and
- (3) mail a filing receipt with a filing date of July 10, 2003.

As provided in Rule 1.47(a), this Office will forward notice of this application's filing date to non-signing inventor Kinney at the address given in the petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the *Official Gazette*.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3217.

Brian Hearn
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy